

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

Adultery - suddenly all America has taken on a holier than thou attitude and we are going back 15 years, finding admitted cases of adultery and using it as an excuse to do away with otherwise qualified leaders - at least in the military, if not in elected offices. Never mind that the individual was separated, and later divorced from their spouses. The most recent case is the refusal to consider a general for promotion to Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Somehow, we don't really care who gets that job, but we do wonder who will get the chance to take that important job we were in time for and now can't have. You see, in 1961 (or maybe 1962) we went to a watermelon cutting one afternoon with a girl who was supposed to be going steady with someone else! To compound our sin, we conspired with her to conceal the fact she was out over an hour that afternoon past her 4 p.m. curfew when she, like the other two student nurses at our watermelon cutting, was supposed to be in the dorm studying!

Sue Messick, now of Niceville, FL, is the former Elba resident who won part of the Florida lottery week before last. She got 3.23 million, or \$161,500 per year for the next 20 years. Not one to mess around, Messick was in Tallahassee on the next Monday to claim her winnings. While in Elba, she worked at Elba General Hospital. We congratulate her and hope she has a long time to enjoy her good fortune.

There was a display ad in the paper last week announcing a public meeting in Elba to discuss the proposed 4-laning of U. S. 84 from Enterprise to Andalusia. Elba folks need to pay attention to these meetings... after the decisions are made and the bids let, there is no turning back, regardless of how much someone might dislike the route, etc. The meeting is set for Tuesday, July 8th at the Elba Elementary School. The time is from 5:30 til 7:30 p.m. These things are informal, a person can just look at the maps, they can ask questions, submit written opinions, or all of the above. This thing is beginning to roll down hill. The feds have already reviewed and approved the required environmental assessments for this project.

Dumb lawsuits... yep, we heard of another. It seems this lawyer filed, on behalf of a dead man's family, a suit charging a retail firm (and the city) failed to maintain a safe environment. The man killed was reportedly in the process of robbing the store! Plus we think maybe they had shot or beat a store clerk. The lawyer dropped the suit when he discovered the man was killed by a customer in the store (who probably didn't have any money or insurance). They are now debating filing a suit against the first lawyer to recover the legal fees incurred from the filing.

Worth magazine has again published a list of the richest towns in America. No, Elba is not on the list. In fact there is not one Alabama community listed. New York and Florida were well represented, with medium homes selling from \$250,000 to the one million dollar range. One of the communities listed had about 40 residents. Buddy, you can bet those folks knew what their neighbors were doing and who might have been visiting them!

Lt Governor Don Siegleman, who also was once Alabama's top law enforcement as Attorney General, is not immune to being a crime victim. Last weekend someone went into his garage and stole his automobile. The convertible was found later with the radio removed and some relatively minor dents and scratches. Sorry, Gov... we just haven't jailed enough of them crooks yet... if that is possible.

Dr. Kim Williams, M.D.
And Her Staff

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Friday, June 13, 1997

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THIRD - Will It Build GOOD WILL And BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
FOURTH - Will It Be BENEFICIAL To all concerned?

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ELBA ROTARY CLUB

The Elba Clipper

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Ricky Milwain - EDITOR
Heddy J. Cox - BUSINESS MANAGER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$15.00 Per Year
6 Months - \$8.00 - Including City & State Tax
Alabama Counties - \$17.00 Per Year - Including Tax
6 Months - \$9.00
Outside Alabama - \$18.00 Per Year - 6 Months - \$10.00

Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies



COFFEE COUNTY EMS OFFICIALLY OPENS...Participants in the ribbon cutting ceremony held recently are pictured above (l-r): front row - Miss Elba Elizabeth Strong, Little Miss Elba Jessica Johnson, Junior Miss Elba Cammie Kelley, Future Little Miss Elba Brittany Chestnut, EMS Owner Stephanie Hartin, Tiffany Hartin, and Liz Waters; back row - Elba Chamber of Commerce President Melba Hollinghead, Executive Director of Elba C of C Barbara Hudson, Elba Mayor James Grimes, Blake Foley, Walt McDuffie, and EMS CEO Will Jordan.



TAYLOR MILL OAKS OPENS...Pictured above are those individuals taking part in the official ribbon cutting ceremony. They are (l-r): Executive Director of Elba C of C Barbara Hudson, Junior Miss Elba Cammie Kelley, Elba Chamber of Commerce President Melba Hollinghead, Miss Elba Elizabeth Strong, Future Little Miss Elba Brittany Chestnut, Little Miss Elba Jessica Johnson, Corrine Daniels, Katelyn Calhoun, Elba Mayor James Grimes, Taylor Mill Oaks owners Katrina and Kenneth Calhoun, Wesley Calhoun, and Barry Giles.



ELBA SKATING RINK NOW IN OPERATION...An official grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony was held recently. Those participating in the event are pictured above. They are (l-r): Director of Elba C of C Barbara Hudson, Junior Miss Elba Cammie Kelley, Elba Chamber of Commerce President Melba Hollinghead, Miss Elba Elizabeth Strong, Little Miss Elba Jessica Johnson, Future Little Miss Elba Brittany Chestnut, Elba Mayor James Grimes, Patsy Lindsey, ESR owner Marie Lindsey, Barry Giles, Lisa Lindsey McClung, and Richard Lovorn. Several other unidentified participants are in the picture.

LET US ORDER YOUR
RUBBER STAMPS
The Elba Clipper
897-2823

**ELBA
GENERAL HOSPITAL
REPORT**

Bulletin Board

S.S. REP - Conference, 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call Fred 1-800-772-1213.
ROTARY CLUB - Tuesday @ Noon - First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.
ELBA MINISTRIAL ASSN. - Tues. 8:00 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.
WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 2nd Monday - 6:00 p.m. City Hall.
COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday of each month - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton.
LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizens Center.
ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD 1st Thurs. - 5:30 p.m. - Supp. Office.
AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Thurs. - 7:30 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.
RESCUE SQUAD - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 7:00 p.m. - Rescue Squad Building.
MASONIC LODGE 178 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - 7 p.m.
BAND BOOSTERS 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. - Band Room @ Elba High School.
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER Mon-Fri 8-12 noon & 12:30-4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-2558.
COFFEE COUNTY COONHUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat. - 2 p.m. - Club House.
COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN 3rd Wed. Noon - Colony Inn, Enterprise.
AIRPORT AUTHORITY 1st Tuesday-12 Noon - City Hall Conference Room.
LARK Meet every 3rd Tuesday night of each month.
CIVIL AIR PATROL Every Monday 7:00 p.m. - Elba Airport-Discoll hangar.

MAKING OURSELVES CLEARER

In last week's edition of *The Elba Clipper* in the "Meet Your Elba Police Officers" article on the front page, Freddy Hanchev was listed as being a native of Brantley, AL. This was incorrect. Freddy is a native of Elba, Alabama. We apologize for the error and are pleased to make this correction.

The Elba Clipper wants to correct errors that appear in this newspaper. Any reader wishing to point out our errors, whether ours or those of our sources, should contact the editor at 897-2823. Clarifications will appear promptly in this space.

ELBA POLICE REPORT

JUNE 2 Thru JUNE 8, 1997

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, June 2, 1997, investigated the following incidents: two DUIs, three assaults, three criminal mischiefs, one rape, five thefts of property, one harassing communication, seven harassments, one damage to city property, one possession of a forged instrument, one theft of services, and one damaged property. Arrests were as follows: one for assault, five for harassment, and one for criminal trespass.

Traffic citations issued were as follows: one for attempting to elude, one for driving while driver's license are suspended, two for DUI, twelve for speeding, one for no tag, two for an expired tag, one for reckless driving, and one for improper passing.

Daily activity highlights were as follows:
MONDAY, JUNE 2 - River stage - no report; Fight reported on Brunson Street (5:49 a.m.); Prowler reported at Mullins Apts. (8:17 p.m.); Alarm at Elba High School (9:33 p.m.).

TUESDAY, JUNE 3 - River stage - 5:70 feet (6:31 a.m.); Alarm at Elba High School (7:22 p.m.); Prowler reported at a residence on AL Hwy. 87N (11:37 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4 - River stage - 5:25 feet (6:30 a.m.); Fight reported at a residence on Williams

St. (7:48 p.m.); Subject reported with a gun, in a vehicle, on Herman Driggers Dr. (10:51 p.m.).

THURSDAY, JUNE 5 - River stage - 5:99 feet (6:36 a.m.); Alarm at Elba General Hospital (10:45 a.m.); Rescue run to a residence on Yelverton St. (7:20 p.m.); Alarm at Big/Little Store - East (11:37 p.m.); Disturbance (domestic) reported on Brunson Circle (11:45 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JUNE 6 - River stage - 4:64 feet (6:25 a.m.); Alarm at Elba General Hospital (8:08 a.m.); Wreck reported on AL Hwy. 134W (9:15 a.m.); Disturbance reported on Williams St. (7:16 p.m.); Prowler reported at First Baptist Church (8:45 p.m.).

SATURDAY, JUNE 7 - River stage - 4:06 feet (6:42 a.m.); Fight reported on Williams St. (11:22 a.m.); Fight reported in Morrow Village (2:39 p.m.); Rescue run to a residence on Hickman Ave. (3:28 p.m.).

SUNDAY, JUNE 8 - River stage - 3:73 feet (6:35 a.m.); Rescue run to a residence on Brunson Circle (7:40 a.m.); Rescue run to a wreck on Co. Rd. 231 (5:39 p.m.); Prowler reported at a residence on AL Hwy. 87N (9:22 p.m.).

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Jim J. DuBose - Broker/Owner

LISTING 239 - 833 N. Washington - This 1500 sq. ft. 4 bed-room, 2 bath home has lots of possibilities. Sales price \$32,500.00.

LISTING 268 - 1794 Highland Dr. - This 2 story home has approximately 2000 sq. ft. with 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, formal dining room, living room, den with fireplace, large storage room and excellent garden spot. Call today to see! Sales price \$93,900.00.

LISTING 234 - 828 N. Washington Ave. - This home is ready for new owners. This 2 bedroom, 1 bath brick home has new paint job, clean carpet, block storage building with covered patio and nice landscaping. Call today to be the proud owners. Sales price \$35,000.

LISTING 238 - Hwy 87 N, Pike County - This newly remodeled 3 bedroom home is situated on 2 acres, with a barn, approximately 10 miles from Troy, Alabama. Sales price \$52,000.00.

LISTING 247 - 849 N. Washington Ave - This 2 bedroom, 1 bath frame home has ponderosa pine paneling in living room and kitchen, new hot water heater, 4 ceiling fans, 1 car port, infrared gas heat, window air and a nice landscaped yard. Sales price \$28,900.00.

LISTING 249 - 1311 Reese Ave. - Owner needs more space for growing family. This 2 bedroom, 1 bath brick home has central heat, window air, 1 car port, city water and is situated on a 100 X 200 lot. Sales price \$38,900.00.

LISTING 258 - 225 Dr. Roberts Dr. - This 2 bedroom, 1 bath frame home is currently used as rental property. Would be good for starter home or investment. Sales price \$25,000.00.

LISTING 259 - 227 Dr. Roberts Dr. - This 2400 sq. ft. brick home was damaged by fire. Present owners have begun remodeling. Sales price \$26,500.00.

LISTING 263 - 1050 Garrett St. - This 3 bedroom, 1 bath home is located on a large corner lot and has public water and sewage. (Owner will consider trade for beach property). Sales price \$20,000.00.

LISTING 280 - Rt. 5, Box 1100, This 2 bedroom, 2 bath frame home is located just north of town and is situated on approximately 2.8 acres of land and has frontage on Pea Creek. Sales price \$39,000.00.

DO YOU WANT TO SELL YOUR REAL ESTATE?
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DuBose Realty
Jim DuBose
Broker/Owner 897-5687 - Home
Karen Collins
Associate Broker/Sales (334) 897-3176 - Home
Day Phone (334) 897-3456 Night Phone (334) 897-5687

Melton Chad Tindol graduates from Yale University



Melton Chad Tindol

Enterprise Chamber of Commerce Annual Health Fair to be held June 21

The Enterprise Chamber of Commerce Annual Health Fair will be held on Saturday morning, June 21, between 8:00 a.m. and noon at Morgan Square Shopping Mall on Rucker Boulevard. Health Fair '97 will feature free health care screenings and services.

Some services offered will be free medication consultations for those who bring in all their medicines or a list of drug names, strength, and frequency taken.

A blood chemistry profile will be available at a charge of only \$10.00. These taking the blood test should not have food or beverages after midnight on Friday, June 20. A PSA blood test for prostate cancer will also be available for a fee of \$20.00. Other fee tests will include blood pressure, height and weight checks, blood sugar and cholesterol screening, vision screening, cataracts and glaucoma screening, orthodontic evaluation, body fat and nutritional analysis, Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) screening, lung function test, screening EKG's.

For more information on Health Fair '97, call Eloise Saway at 393-8743 or Greg McGilvray, project chairman, at 393-8701.

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at wholesale prices!

(Sale excludes ferns and fresh flowers.)

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Rabies Clinic to be held June 14

A Rabies Clinic will be held June 14, 1997 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at the Coffee County Farm Center in New Brockton. Dog and cat vaccinations will be \$5.00 each. Dr. Bruce Quisenberry is the Coffee County Rabies Inspector.

Local UA student winning of award

Heather Stinson of Elba is a member of the University of Alabama's 1996-1997 Student Ad Team, which placed second in the National Student Advertising Competition's district finals in Huntsville recently.

The UA team placed second overall among 11 participating schools from across the Southeast presenting original integrated marketing campaigns, and was awarded "Best Creative" for its campaign concept and executions. The sponsoring client for this year's competition was Pizza Hut, for whom the team developed a campaign entitled "Get it Together at Pizza Hut".

To be eligible for the competition, teams are first required to submit a 40-page plan book outlining research, objectives, budgets, creative strategy to support their campaign. These plans are summarized for a panel of judges in a live 20-minute presentation at the annual competition.

Hospice South, Inc. needs volunteers.....

Volunteers are needed to help with the terminal ill, and Hospice South is looking for people who want to make a difference. If you are interested in joining their volunteer program call Susan Nunn, Volunteer Coordinator, at (334) 445-1401 or (334)897-2350.

AREA DEATHS

IRIS DENENE BUTLER

Iris Denene Butler, age 26, died Thursday, June 5, 1997. Funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 10, 1997 from the Poplar Spring Baptist Church of New Brockton, Alabama with Rev. Dr. J.L. Gray officiating. Burial followed in the Mt. Cal-

vary Cemetery of Elba, AL with Coleman Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include her husband, David A. Butler of North Carolina; her father, Samuel L. Reynolds of Ozark, AL; a step-father, Oscar Goodwine, Jr. of Tampa, Florida; two sons, David A. Butler III and Enoch T. S. Butler, both of Enterprise, AL; a daughter, Calatha T. Butler of Enterprise, AL; her grandmother, Fannie J. Baldwin of Enterprise, AL; two sisters, Yolanda (Kelvin) Fuller of Enterprise, AL and Rosalind (Marcus) Warren of Jacksonville, FL; one brother, Oscar Goodwine III of Enterprise, AL; 5 half-brothers; a host of other relatives and friends.

JOHN FRANK ADAMS

John Frank Adams, age 69 of Niagara Falls, New York, died May 27, 1997 in the Deaconess Hospital in Buffalo, NY. He was a native of Elba, Alabama.

Funeral services were held Friday, May 30, 1997 at Mt. Erie Baptist Church of Niagara Falls, NY with Rev. Dr. C.A. Williams officiating.

Burial followed with Auspices-Williamson Funeral Home directing. Survivors include his wife, Mattie Adams of Niagara Falls, NY; three sons, John Lewis Adams of Lockport, NY, Jeffrey Earl Adams of Niagara Falls, NY, and Kenny Frank Adams, U.S. Army, Ft. Stewart, Georgia; four daughters, Diane James of Tuscaloosa, AL, Gloria Denise Baker of East Orange, New Jersey, Angela Ann Smith of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and Pamela Adams DeVaughn of Niagara Falls, NY; four sons-in-law, George James, Luther Baker, Timothy Smith, and David DeVaughn Sr.; one daughter-in-law, Maria Adams; two sisters, Melie White of Pensacola, Florida and Alzie Maye Davis of Elba, AL; two brothers-in-law, Zolhe White Sr. and Shelly Davis; 14 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; a host of other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by a son, Jerry Adams.

Pre-need Funeral Planning now available at Hayes Funeral Home for details 897-2225

Red Cross to sponsor disaster training

The American Red Cross will sponsor Disaster Services Training in Elba on Friday mornings during the month of June.

The training is free to any individual or group interested in helping during a local disaster. Classes offered will better prepare volunteers to assist if a disaster should occur.

Volunteers are needed in Shelter Operations and Damage Assessment. Training will be held at the Elba Hospital and Nursing Home Conference Room, 9 a.m. until noon, and is scheduled as follows:

June 6 - Introduction to Disaster
June 13 - Mass Care Overview
June 20 - Shelter Operations
June 27 - Damage Assessment
The "Introduction to Disaster" course is the first course and is needed before any other can be taken. It is available in a video take-home format and is available at Elba City Hall.

A "Mass Care Overview" and "Shelter Operations" are classes that cover what is involved in setting up, running, and supplying a shelter during a disaster.

A shelter team for the Elba area will be formed from those attending the training.

The shelters are set up to provide safe places during and after the disaster. Many people who use the shelter are elderly, live in mobile homes, or live in areas normally affected by flooding.

"Damage Assessment" takes place immediately following a disaster. Information on damage and List number of people affected is gathered by volunteers.

This is accomplished by a street-

by-street survey, which can be completed in less than two days.

Volunteers can be scheduled for as little as a 4-hour period following the disaster.

Quick accurate damage assessment following the disaster is critical because local, state, and federal assistance is based on the numbers reported. The faster the information is gathered the faster help can be requested and received.

To register or for questions, call the Red Cross office in Enterprise at 347-2461. Walk-ins are welcome.

University of West AL announces Dean's List

A total of 176 students were named to the Dean's List at the University of West Alabama for the Spring Quarter, according to Clarence Egbert, Registrar at the Alabama school.

A 3.25 average on a 4.0 scale must be maintained during the quarter. Many people who use the shelter are elderly, live in mobile homes, or live in areas normally affected by flooding.

Phil Boggan of Elba, AL was among those named to the Dean's List.

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CITY

(Continued from Page One)

to the fact my son is a teacher in the Elba school system." After the meeting, Bannin was overheard mentioning the fact that council member Ben Carpenter had a niece and a nephew who were also teachers in the Elba system.

City Attorney Jeff Kelley wasn't prepared to present a legal opinion at the meeting and Grimes recommended a postponement of any action until a later date. The council was unanimous in tabling the appointment.

The council voted to pay the necessary \$350 land appraisal fee and National Security will donate some previously offered land in Riverview Subdivision. The council had previously voted to accept the land, but later questioned having to pay the cost of the appraisal. Grimes acknowledged he had failed to mention the appraisal cost when he first reported the donation offer to the council. The land consists of several undeveloped lots, all but two facing Pea River.

Sales tax collections in Elba are down and Grimes has been expressing concern about this. He explained

to the council that the local taxes are collected by a private firm and he has discussed with them a couple of local accounts which are not paying any taxes.

The mayor explained the wording of the contract with the firm and his disapproval with their efforts.

The State of Alabama has offered to lower their collection fees to \$3.65 per account, effective October, 1997. This would include all legal and audit compliance at no additional cost. Presently Elba is paying several thousand dollars a year extra for auditing cost ... and that hasn't resulted in any collections of the delinquent taxes.

The private firm is charging \$7.00 per account plus the auditing fees.

Grimes promised to have a resolution ready for the council at the next meeting.

Bills totaling \$14,398.73 were approved for payment.

The mayor said they planned to start soon on the abandoned cars and dilapidated buildings around town. He said talks with the city attorney indicated the existing ordinances

should be adequate to get the job done.

Police Chief R. W. Whitworth reported the police cars had patrolled 14,696 miles during the month of May. They made 202 contacts with complaints, witnesses, etc. and spent 373 hours on security checks.

The department has been made aware of numerous complaints of litter being thrown from cars and will be trying to stop this. Also the DARE officer will be making frequent visits to the ball parks during the summer.

City Clerk Donnie Morrow reported the second new police car has arrived and is being retrofitted with lights, radio, etc. The new truck for the recreation department has arrived and is in use.

Morrow asked that each council member list by priority those streets within his district in need of repaving.

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MATRIX LAW NETS TEACHER PAY RAISES

Elba schools to drop two teacher units

by Ferrin Cox
Publisher

Elba City School board members were told last Thursday evening that the recently passed salary matrix law would cost the local system at least \$56,938 next year and an additional equal amount the following year, for a total of \$113,876 extra per year.

Superintendent Charles Pearce said he would like to be able to pay the full 100% the first year, but would probably recommend to the school board that Elba pay half the first year and the balance the second year. Any teacher in the Elba system with 22 or more years service is being paid at 95% of the state matrix figure. They will all be at 100% within two years under this new state law.

Superintendent Charles Pearce added that the law requires the school system to pay any teacher who declares an intention of retiring within the next three years, 100% of the matrix beginning the first year.

There are 29 teachers and administrators in the Elba system who would qualify for this. There were 17 of these who have indicated they do, in fact, plan to retire and will request the full 100% matrix beginning the first year.

Teacher retirement is based on the pay received during the final years and this new matrix law could mean as much as \$100 per month retirement, and upon repayment of all outstanding bonds, the property will revert to the county from the building authority and the lease payments will stop.

Pearce said this combination will probably cause Elba to drop two teachers from the overall program. He said the school board doesn't have enough local money to replace the lost funds and pay the two teachers.

Another new law requires the school board to hold two public hearings before adopting a budget for the coming year. Elba has set July 8th and 10th, at 5:30 p.m., for these public hearings. They will be held in the Elementary School Conference Room.

The superintendent said the school would have to submit a balanced budget, but would not have a state education budget to guide

additional money and didn't retire, that teacher would owe back the additional money plus 8% interest.

If the 17 who have indicated they plan to sign up for the 100% matrix actually do so, the system will pay out an additional \$74,900 the first year, rather than the \$56,938 minimum required to meet the new law.

The Alabama legislature lowered

them. He said state officials had advised local school boards to use the past year's budget and the state budget voted by the governor as guides in making a budget for next year.

Any surprise changes by the legislature in August or September would force amendments in the local budget, because state law requires a balanced budget for all school systems.

Pearce reported a strong financial statement considering the fact it is nearing the end of the school's fiscal year. This is "due to revenues being higher than projected and expenses being lower than expected."

The county sales tax is higher than usual, Pearce said.

An increase in the cost of substitute teachers was recorded last month. The superintendent said it was the highest ever and mostly due to sickness.

The summer feeding program has gotten off to a fast start, board members were told. The school system administers this federally funded program for the City of Elba. Last Thursday there were 486 young people who participated in the lunch program.

The baseball field is getting nearer and nearer to completion. The concession stand/press box is dry in and the brickwork should be completed soon.

The access street from Taylor Mill Road should be paved within the next few days, if not done by press time and the bus stop is nearing completion.

The only project stalled is an outdoor science project. Pearce gave no timetable for this project.

The board accepted the retirement of Mrs. Betty Coon as manager of the high school lunchroom. Her retirement was effective May 30th.

In related action, the board promoted Mrs. Knight as manager of the high school lunchroom. She had been serving as assistant manager of the lunchroom.

Pearce said there were no immediate plans to hire any additional personnel for the lunchroom.

The board accepted Pearce's recommendation that all administrative staff be rehired for the coming year.

Orientation for new students at MacArthur State Technical College at MacArthur State.

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MUSTARD SEED
FOUNDATION NEWS

The seniors met on June 4, 1997 at the foundation to have a time of fellowship and enjoyed a luncheon. There were 12 present. They were: Mary Seavey, Marie Lou Goodson, Margie Smith, Louise Wambles, Bonnie Morris, Harper Smart, Sammie Wambles, Hazel Bragg, Zealon and Evelyn Smith, Frank and Linnie McCollough. The seniors will meet at the foundation would like to invite others to come and join their fellowship. There were several members missing due to sickness.

Birthday wishes go out to Birgitte Craft, Gennie Hussey, and Frank McCollough for the month of June.

The foundation is located in the Victoria Community on Coffee County Road #211. For more information, contact the Mustard Seed Foundation Senior Citizens call 897-6647 or 735-2453.

There will be a homecoming service, with dinner on the ground, on June 15, 1997 beginning at 10:30 a.m. Bro. Zealon Smith will bring the morning message. The Living Proof will be singing in the afternoon, along with other special singing.

The next monthly sing will be held at 7:00 p.m., June 21, with the Good News and Hallelon Family of Opp, AL.

For more information call 897-6647 or 735-2453.

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NEWS AMONG OUR SERVICE FOLKS

SHERRINA A. THOMAS

Marine Sgt. Sherrina A. Thomas, daughter of Peggy Thomas of New Brockton, recently reported for duty with Marine Aircraft Group #2, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, Naval Air Station Atlanta, Marietta, Ga.

Thomas' new assignment is an example of how Navy and Marine Corps men and women are assigned to ships, squadrons and shore commands around the world.

The 1991 graduate of New Brockton High School joined the Marine Corps in August 1991.

KEVIN N. BOSWELL

Kevin N. Boswell has joined the United States Army Reserve under the Delayed Training Program at the U.S. Army Recruiting Station at Anniston.

The program gives young men or women the opportunity to delay enlistment into the Army for up to one year before reporting to basic military training.

The enlistment gives the new soldier the option to learn a new skill, travel and become eligible to receive college education benefits.

After completion of basic training, soldiers receive advanced individual training in their career specialty.

Boswell, a 1993 graduate of Geneva High School, will report to Ft. McClellan, Anniston, Ala., for military basic training June 25.

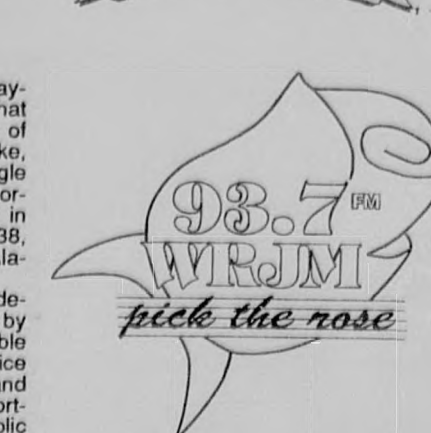
He is the son of Shirl Spinks of Elba, and Robert F. Boswell, Wetumpka.

His wife, Tisha, is the daughter of Sharon K. Kitchens of Anniston, and William N. Kitchens, Kaufman, Texas.

Friendship Holiness Church to hold revival services

The Friendship Holiness Church is planning revival services beginning Sunday, June 15. Services will begin each night at 7:00 p.m. Speakers will be Jerry and Wayne Hall.

SAPPHIRE PATHEON DAY



King's Furniture & Appliances "Your Family Owned & Operated Store For Over 29 Years"

2821 Ross Clark Circle, S.W. • Dothan, AL

FANTASTIC FATHER'S DAY FINDS

4 BIG DAYS OF SAVINGS
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

MAGIC CHEF MICROWAVE SALE
All sizes \$79.95
5,000 BTU \$168
10,000 BTU \$268
12,000 BTU \$298
15,000 BTU \$368

AIR CONDITIONER SALE
5,000 BTU \$168
10,000 BTU \$268
12,000 BTU \$298
15,000 BTU \$368

DINETTE TABLE SALE
With Four Chairs \$149
With Six Chairs \$199

ALL CAMERAS ON SALE
WHIRLPOOL DISHWASHER \$175
Heavy Duty, Regular Wash & Dry Cycle
Compare \$200.00

4 PC. BEDROOM SUITE SALE
Dresser, Bed, Mirror & Chest
Compare at \$499.00
SALE \$198

RECLINERS ALL SALE PRICED
NEW 3 PIECE LIVING ROOM SUITE
Sofa, Loveseat & Chair
Choice of Patterns
Reg. \$1100
SALE \$398

BUNK BEDS SALE
Compare \$48
SALE \$48

ALL BIG SCREENS SALE
17" to 21"
SALE \$700

WHIRLPOOL ELECTRIC RANGE SALE
30 inch, Plug-In, Self-Cleaning Oven
Compare \$299.00
SALE \$278

OTHER RANGES SALE
SALE \$188

WHIRLPOOL CHEST FREEZER SALE
18 Cu. Ft.
SALE \$228

WHIRLPOOL 10 CU. FT. UPRIGHT FREEZER SALE
Compare \$260
SALE \$260

OTHER FREEZERS SALE
SALE \$488

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2821 Ross Clark Circle, S.W. • 793-3045
OPEN MON - FRI 8-6 SAT 8-6 CLOSED SUNDAY

Some One And Two Of A Kind Floor Models EASY PAYMENT PLAN

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TERMITES AND PEST CONTROL AND A WHOLE LOT MORE!

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KERSEY'S TERMITE COMPANY

12 Sensational Hours Friday!

TO ALL FURNITURE BUYERS IN THIS AREA... 10 'Til 10! 12 Months NO INTEREST

This storewide clearance is designed and intended to be the most important savings event in area history and it's yours Friday!

The STORE IS CLOSED THURSDAY TO REDUCE ALL PRICES AND PREPARE!

Chandler's Furniture

REALLY HOT SUMMER CLEARANCE!

EVERY ITEM IN THEIR \$2,000,000 INVENTORY IS CLEARANCE PRICED FRIDAY!

299 Twin Captain Bed

599 Contemporary suite in a "Casual Oak" finish on wood solids.

799 Bleached Pine Traditional Design

299 SLEIGH BED

399 SOFA

499 SOFA

1995 Finest Leather All Over your CHAIR

1199 Complete Wall Entertainment Center in Cherry Finish

1199 Complete Wall Entertainment Center in Cherry Finish

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OUT OF FLOOD ZONE! Great brick w/Vinyl trim. In excellent condition. 3 BR, 2 BA, Den, Dining Room, CH&A, FP w/Hearth, 2-Car Carport. Approximately 1800 SF & large lot on a hillside at 905 Flournoy Dr. Price \$85,000.

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Phone 334/897-2823 Fax 897-3434
By mail to: P. O. Box A, Elba, AL 36323
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417 W. Buford Street, Elba
8 a.m. to 6 p.m. M-F & 11 a.m. Sat.

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Payment is by cash, check, credit card or
30 day charge with approved credit.

Cost only **\$2.50** per week (first 15 words)
*Additional words 12¢ each
Prepaid personal ads get 4th week FREE
Bordered classifieds cost \$4.26 per col. inch

DEADLINE

Classified and other advertisements have a non
Tuesday deadline for that week's paper.
We reserve the right to edit or refuse any ad at any time.

We strive to prevent errors in your ad,
(and embarrassment to us both) but any
corrections necessary must be made immedi-
ately after 1st publication to get proper credit.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE-FIREPLACE INSERT
(blowers), stained brick cabinets, gold
electric oven, wood six paneled doors,
light fixtures, maple bar stools, gold
kitchen sink, wood ceiling molding, car-
pet, mixer on stand, television.
(334)897-6974 after 5:30 p.m. 6-5-2ip

MONTHLY FLEA program need help! Kill
fleas and ticks on contact with the Happy K
3 x flea collar. Available O-T-C at APC County
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PEACHES ARE READY
YELLOW
SEMI CLING
VERY GOOD
Co. Rd. 353 Near
Coffee County Lake
Ralph Sharpless.
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GOLF CARTS - golf carts - gas or electric in
stock, new or used, special 1992 Yamaha Elec-
tric \$1,250.00, 1995 club car \$1,650.00, 97
Also, FINANCING. NEPTUNE
batteries \$279.99 (set of 6) Plaza Golf Carts,
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PEACHES U-Rich Charles Culp Farms. Goto
145 Jensen, Exit 219, Go East 1/2 mile. Open
7 a.m./7 days a week. (205) 688-4553. (R)

CLUB MEMBERS needed - Trophy deer
hunting, need six club members, 1,000 acres in
Blackbelt. Dove shoots, \$1,500 membership.
(334) 875-1384. Charles Dixon

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select models while supplies last. Concessions
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AMERICAN TAN - Sonnenbrenn wolf
and wolf. 20 x 26, 25 x 44, 30 x 50, 40 x 78.
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Home and commercial units. Factory direct.
Financing available. 90 days same as cash.
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TRAVEL TRAILER 22' Sleeps 6. New
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1979 FORD 350 BACKHOE
READY TO WORK. Asking \$7900.
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HONDA PRESSURE cleaner: 4000 PSI -
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Medicaid Recipients

The Governor of the State of Alabama and his Director of the State Medicaid Pharmacy Program have proposed to do away with your existing pharmacy benefits.

The Alabama State Medicaid Agency wants Gov. Fob James to mandate that you have your Medicaid prescriptions filled through a mail order pharmacy.

WHAT THIS MEANS TO YOU:

- You will no longer be able to use your local community pharmacy when you need prescriptions and refills.
- You will have to wait for the mail to receive your prescriptions.
- You will no longer be able to ask questions and receive counseling on your prescriptions by the pharmacist you have used and trusted for years.
- A parent with a sick child will have to wait days or in some cases a week to get the medicine they need.
- Many rural areas will lose their community pharmacies.
- The elderly will no longer have a person they know to turn to with concerns and questions about their medicine and health.
- Mail Order Prescriptions can cause harm and death. There have been many documented cases of prescriptions being stolen from mail boxes or simply being lost in the mail.
- The mail-order company that will fill these prescriptions could very well be an out-of-state business. That will mean millions of dollars leaving your community and the State of Alabama.

This discriminates against the poor, the children, and the elderly of Alabama by making it more difficult, if not impossible, to obtain prescriptions when needed.

DO NOT LET THIS HAPPEN IN ALABAMA! CALL OR CONTACT:

Gov. Fob James in Montgomery
334 242-7100
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Mary Finch, Director of Medicaid Pharmacy Program
334 242-5473 • Fax: 334 242-5097

Dr. John Searcy, Medicaid Medical Director
334 242-5600 • Fax: 334 242-5097

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Locally, you need to IMMEDIATELY contact your State Senator Dwight Adams at 894-6639, your State Representative Garreth Moore at 347-8967 and your Governor Fob James, Jr. on his Monday afternoon radio program at 1-800-289-9228.

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The Elba Clipper

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Art Williams visits Mr. Rogers' neighborhood

(Editor's Note: The following article was published in *The Troy Progress* and is special to *The Elba Clipper*. Janine Treadwell, editor of *The Troy Progress*, wrote the article.)

It was a beautiful day in the neighborhood when Art Williams sat down at a piano in Studio A to play for a man who had been a major force in his life.

As he played the title song from public television's longest running program, *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood*, the man himself, Fred Rogers, began to sing softly, "It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood."

For Williams, that experience was one of the most special moments in his life. For years, he had admired the man who invited him each day into his neighborhood. For young Art Williams, Mr. Rogers' neighborhood was a fascinating and wonderful place. Mr. Rogers had an impact on his life that would give it direction and purpose.

Williams' fascination with children's television began early.

As a child, he sat spellbound at the wonders of WSEA-TV's *Young World* with Marge Payne. The puppets on the show sparked Williams' interest and soon he was writing "back and forth" with the show's host. He started to create his own puppets and set up a set similar to

the one on *Young World* in his own home.

When he was 8 years old, Williams and his puppets were invited to perform on the show. He became somewhat of a regular guest on the show and received invitations to perform all across the television viewing area.

When *Young World* went off the air, Williams moved to Mr. Rogers' neighborhood.

However, he was not content to just watch the program. He wanted to be a neighbor in a more personal way so he began corresponding with Mr. Rogers.

What his eyes couldn't see, his ears heard...the unique playing style of the man on Mr. Rogers' piano.

"My first musical experience was with Johnny Costa," Williams said. "I wanted to play just like him."

Costa was a noted jazz pianist and longtime musical director for the program. His style of playing, spontaneous composition, usually indicates that no printed music is available for what is being played, so no music was available for the way Costa played.

Mr. Rogers' *Songbook* contained simplified music from the program but Williams wanted to play like

Johnny Costa. Fortunately, there was so much demand for Costa's music from adults, that Rogers produced an album titled *Johnny Costa Plays Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood Jazz*.

Williams listened to the album over and over. "I realized the only way I was going to learn to play Costa's music was to write it down," Williams said. "So I dubbed the album on a cassette so I could have control over it and figure it out."

When Williams sat down to the difficult task of transcribing Costa's music, he was only a high school junior.

"I've always believed if you want to do something badly enough you can do it," Williams said. "And I wanted to do it so much."

After he had transcribed two songs, Williams got Costa's address from the telephone book and wrote him.

"I gave him some of my personal background and assured him the only reason for my wanting to transcribe his music was as a motivation to learning," Williams said. "I sent him the transcribed manuscripts and asked him to critique them."

Costa's reply was prompt. "He encouraged me to study music," he said. "I had a good ear and the conception was right on the mark. He did make a few marks on the music but he said they were only for clarity, nothing else."

Williams continued to watch Mr. Rogers and listen to Costa's music. At times, Costa would come on camera with Mr. Rogers.

Years later, when only a few new programs were being taped each year, Costa appeared on camera and Williams noticed the man whom he admired was in failing health.

In August 1996, Williams received a brochure promoting a new Costa album *Christmas Reflections*. While calling to order the album, he noticed wording on the brochure that devastated him...Johnny Costa (1922-1996).

"I was distraught," Williams said. "It had been a lifelong dream to see Johnny Costa and hear him play. It's so sad that those who have such an

impact on our lives don't even know it. Johnny Costa will never know the impact he had on my life."

Williams felt a pressing need to know more about the man he so admired, so he telephoned Lenny Melendandi, the assistant producer of *Mr. Rogers*.

"He worked closely with Costa on the program and on his albums," Williams said. "I knew he could tell me many things about him."

Williams was not able to reach Melendandi by telephone and he left several messages on his answering machine.

"I decided to call him one more time but, before I called, I prayed," Williams said. "When he answered he said he recognized my warm voice from the machine. I knew then, my prayer had been answered."

For 45 minutes, the two shared their mutual admiration for Costa and what a great loss the industry had suffered.

"Melendandi asked me what my ultimate goal was. I told him I would like to visit the program and thank Fred Rogers for what he and his program had meant to my life," Williams said.

The Troy State music education major did not know what a difficult request he had made. Mr. Rogers allows few visitors to Studio A in Pittsburgh. Prior to each taping, he invites special children to the set, but they leave before the actual taping begins.

"He is very intense with his work," Williams said. "When he's taping, his focus is on making contact with his audience and establishing a good rapport with them. He doesn't want anything or anybody to distract him from that."

In light of Williams' request, Melendandi asked Williams to send him information about himself. Williams obliged in a big way. He sent audio and video tapes of him at the piano, playing Costa. He sent photographs of himself, just before taping began, Williams heard his name called to come on stage.

"He told me to choose where I would like to be during the day. You



Pictured above (l-r) are: Art Williams and Fred Rogers

Rogers are made by a celesta," Williams said. "It's an unusual instrument."

Evidently Melendandi and Rogers were impressed. Melendandi called Williams and extended him an invitation from Rogers to visit the studio in Pittsburgh on April 10, 1997.

Melendandi advised Williams the invitation was for only one day but that mattered little to Williams. He would have gone "for one minute."

However, Williams also received an invitation to attend a dedication to Johnny Costa at the Mellon Jazz Festival while he was in Pittsburgh. He met members of Costa's family and that was a big moment for him.

Once in Studio A, Williams took his seat in the audience. Rogers came over to him, welcomed him and thanked him for coming; then he went to visit with a young boy in a wheelchair. That short encounter with Rogers was, perhaps, as much as Williams could expect.

Hours just before taping began, Williams heard his name called to come on stage.

"He told me to choose where I would like to be during the day. You

NEWS BRIEFS

A Coffee County man, Brick Miller, 56, plead guilty to attempted assault second degree and two counts of criminally negligent homicide Monday afternoon after his trial had begun. He was sentenced to 12 months in the Coffee County Jail on each charge to run concurrently. Sentence was suspended by Circuit Judge Robert Barr with Miller to be on unsupervised probation for 12 months. Miller was originally charged with two counts of manslaughter and one count of assault second degree. A vehicle being driven by Miller crashed through a tree, downed by Hurricane Opal in October 1995, striking Claude Lee, 72, and Betty Lee, 57, killing them both. Dovell "Dub" Jones, 59, was also struck but survived.

Three teenagers were injured in a one-vehicle crash on AL 166 west of Elba Saturday night shortly before midnight. The GEO Tracker being driven by Sterling Jones, 19, of Elba, left the roadway and overturned. Jones, along with passengers Shenna Mount, 15, of Opp, AL and Erica Caldwell, 14, of Elba were taken to Elba General Hospital by units of the Elba Rescue Squad. All three remained in the hospital overnight. The accident was investigated by Alabama State Trooper Tracy Nelson.

Authorities are unsure as to who does own it. He does not believe the two men arrested actually planned the marijuana. It is unusual for marijuana growers to plant on their own property when large areas of commercially owned land are readily available.

The plants were discovered when authorities acted on an anonymous tip. The incident remains under investigation by the sheriff's department and members of the 12th Judicial Circuit Drug Task Force.

FATHER AND SON ARRESTED IN RURAL RAID

Search reveals 109 marijuana plants

by Marvin McLwain - Editor

A combined search in Southwest Coffee County by the Coffee County Sheriff's Department and 12th Judicial Circuit Drug Task Force netted 109 marijuana plants and two arrests.

A father and his son, ages 43 and 23 respectively, were arrested Tuesday afternoon, June 10. The names of the individuals are being withheld by the sheriff's department pending further investigation.

In the initial search on Tuesday, 54 marijuana plants were found. Some of the plants were over four-and-a-half feet tall.

Authorities returned to the location on Co. Rd. 492 Wednesday, located and confiscated an additional 39 plants.

On Monday, June 16, sheriff's deputies returned to the location to

continue their search for the illegal plants. This time they were aided by a helicopter. They found 16 more marijuana plants in the vicinity of the original search area.

A total of 109 illegal marijuana plants were confiscated by authorities. The estimated street value of the mature plant, based on the usable marijuana it will produce, is \$2,450.00. This places the estimated value of the "find" at \$267,050.00.

According to Sheriff Ben Moates, this isn't the largest find in the county, but it is a sizable one.

Both men arrested in connection with the drug bust were charged with possession of marijuana in the second degree and possession of drug paraphernalia. Both are misdemeanor charges.

According to Sheriff Moates, the two men arrested do not own the land where the majority of plants

were found. Authorities are unsure as to who does own it.

He does not believe the two men arrested actually planned the marijuana. It is unusual for marijuana growers to plant on their own property when large areas of commercially owned land are readily available.

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NEW DOCTOR'S OFFICE. An official ribbon cutting ceremony and open house was held last Friday afternoon at Dr. Kim Williams' new office. The new facility is located at the end of Drayton Street in front of Elba General Hospital and Nursing Home. Picture are above are the participants in the ribbon cutting. They are (l-r) Doris Mathews, Little Miss Elba Jessica Johnson, Tim Johnson, Melba Hollingshead, Cathy Spicer, Ellen Briley, Dr. Kim Williams, Elba Mayor James E. Grimes, Future Little Miss Elba Britany Chestnut, Terri McDuffie, Herby McCall, Patsy Lee, Barbara Hudson, and Judy Qualis.

Meet Your Elba Police Officers

Meet Elba Police Chief R. W. "Ronnie" Whitworth. Ronnie is a native of Jasper, AL and has been a member of the Elba Police Department since October 1996. He was appointed chief by the present administration.

Chief Whitworth has been in law enforcement for the past 28 years. He retired from the Alabama State Troopers after 26 years of service. Prior to becoming a state trooper, he was a military policeman for 2 years.

Chief Whitworth has received training in special operation, disaster management, radar and aerial traffic enforcement, radiological monitoring and much, much more. "More than I can remember," said Ronnie. He is also a certified Intoxilizer 5000 operator.

"One of the best things about being in law enforcement is that every day brings something different - a new challenge," said Ronnie.

"When it comes to memorable experiences, there's not just one that stands out above the rest," he said.

The most recent was when during a traffic stop he confiscated more than \$500,000.00 in contraband U. S. currency.

As a state trooper, Whitworth received numerous citations for dedicated service, a life-saving award, selected trooper of the

Meet Your Elba Police Officers

year by the Alabama State Troopers' Association in 1990, and other awards that he can't even remember.

"After more than 25 years on the road as a state trooper, more happens than you can recall," said Ronnie.

The chief has one hobby - fishing!

Ronnie is married to Kaye M. Whitworth and has three children - a son, Janice; a daughter, Kayron; a daughter, Lee Ann; and a grandson, Austin.

Chief R. W. Whitworth

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